

HINCKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Reports

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year ended 31st December, 1954

*

W. D. CRUICKSHANK, M.B., CH.B and

E. MELSON, M.S.I.A

Health and Sanitary Committee
(as composed 31st December, 1954)

Mr. Councillor H. CRAMP (Chairman of the Council).

Councillor Mrs. D. ATKINS, J.P., C.C. (Chairman of the Committee).

Mr. Councillor F. HALL, J.P., (Vice-Chairman of the Committee).

Councillor Dr. M. O. CRUICKSHANK, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Mr. Councillor G. E. DEARING, J.P.

Mr. Councillor E. A. HOLT.

Mr. Councillor J. JACQUES.

Mr. Councillor R. A. LUMB, B.A.

Mr. Councillor T. O. McGRAH.

Mr. Councillor G. PRICE-JONES.

Mr. Councillor J. WADDINGTON.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS
of the
HINCKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health:
W. D. CRUICKSHANK, M.B., Ch.B. (Aberdeen)

Chief Sanitary Inspector:
E. MELSON, M.S.I.A.(1.2.3.)

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:
H. DEAMER, M.S.I.A.(1.2.5.)

Sanitary Inspectors:
L. F. WHITMORE, M.S.I.A. (1.2.)
F. D. T. GEORGE, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.(1.2.3.4.)
A.M.I.San.E.

General Assistant/Clerk:
G. A. HULME

Clerks:
MRS. E. E. CLARK
MISS N. E. JENNINGS

Rodent Operator:
T. FITZPATRICK

1. Joint Board Certificate for Sanitary Inspector.
2. Royal Sanitary Institute Meat and Other Foods Inspectors Certificate.
3. Royal Sanitary Institute Diploma for Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.
4. Associate Membership Examination of the Institution of Sanitary Engineers.
5. Part I. of the Sanitary Inspectors Association Diploma in Sanitary Science.

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hinckley Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present for your information the Annual Report for 1954, and, no unfavourable comment having been made, I offer it in the same set-up as that of last year, at a cost of only about one third that of printing.

General Health of the Community

Continues at a high level. There is no evidence of any general malnutrition.

Infectious Diseases

I note with satisfaction the complete absence of any cases of Poliomyelitis, and for the first time for several years the almost complete absence of measles - a disease normally occurring in epidemic form in alternate years. There were a few more cases of dysentery, a disease which now seems to be becoming established in Britain.

Diphtheria Immunisation

In 1953 owing to the existence of Poliomyelitis immunisation was stopped for the summer months. This was reflected in a drop in the figures but I am glad to say that during 1954 the number of children immunised was well above the average of recent years.

I cannot stress too often the need for this harmless protection against a killing disease. One suspected case was notified during the year, but the diagnosis was not confirmed subsequently.

Tuberculosis

There is a small, but definite, drop in the number of new cases notified.

Vital Statistics

There has been a fall in the total number of births with a consequent fall in the birth rate. The death rate shows a slight rise but is well below the national average.

Town Mortuary

The need for this is still urgent, and there are signs that something may be done about it during the coming year.

Food Hygiene

The campaign for clean food is being carried on relentlessly. A survey of the conditions in Licensed Premises is being made and comment on it occurs elsewhere in this Report.

The care of old people

The problem of the aged people in need of care and attention increases yearly. The ideal is to keep old people up and about, and to prevent neglect of home and self by timely help.

It would surely be more of an economic proposition to have these folk looked after in their own homes than in costly hospital beds.

I regret to note a tendency for the generation below to regard the welfare of their senior relatives as being primarily a responsibility for the State and no longer an honourable duty devolving on themselves.

Mr. Chairman of the Council, Madam Chairman and Members of the Health Committee I thank you once again for your support throughout the year, and tender my thanks to Mr. Melson and his staff for their help.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. D. Cruickshank.

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(For comparative purposes last year's figures have been inserted in brackets).

Area in Acres	...	11,882	
Registrar General's estimate of population	...	39,680	(39,310)
No. of inhabited houses at 31/12/54	...	12,430	(12,138)
Product of a penny rate at 31/3/54	...	£846:15:11.	(£831:18:5)
Rateable value at 31/3/54	...	£212,649.	(208,122)

Social Conditions

The main industries of the district are the manufacture of hosiery which includes underwear and outerwear, and boots and shoes. There is also a large dyers and cleaners, some engineering and many trades ancillary to the two main industries.

The industries are of a light textile nature and none of the occupations seem to have an injurious effect on health. Much of the female labour is drawn from the neighbouring districts which causes a daily mingling of population.

The social conditions of the people are good. I set out below extracts from the 1951 Census, from these, it is apparent that we are better situated than many authorities in the constitution of our population, our proportion of children under 15 is above the average and our proportion of people of 65 years or over is the lowest in the County. The percentage of persons living at more than two per room in 1931 was 2.50 whereas in 1951 it was 1.25.

39,094 our census population compares with 29,031 at the 1931 census, an increase of 10,063, or 34.7%.

The 39,094 was made up by 18,754 males and 20,340 females.

There were 12,259 persons under 21 years of age, 6036 males and 6,223 females.

The percentage of children under the age of 15 was 24, compared with 22.7% for the County as a whole. Persons aged 65, and over, was 8.7%, the lowest in the County where the average was 10.7%.

9.4%	of the population was in the age group	0 - 4 years.
14.6%	" " " " " " " "	5 - 14 "
43.1%	" " " " " " " "	15 - 44 "
24.2%	" " " " " " " "	45 - 64 "
8.7%	" " " " " " " "	65 years and over.

The average numbers of persons per household was 3.26 as compared with 3.70 in 1931.

Social Class

		Hinckley U.D. Proportions	Whole of Leics. per 1,000	England & Wales total.
I. Professional etc. Occupations	171	13	22	33
II. Intermediate Occupations	1642	121	146	150
III. Skilled Occupations	8337	611	568	527
IV. Partly Skilled Occupations	2481	182	167	162
V. Unskilled Occupations	988	73	97	128
	TOTAL	<u>13,619</u>	males (occupied and retired) aged 15 years and over.	

The high proportion of persons who are in skilled occupations gives some indication of the industrial nature of the town and also helps to explain why the social conditions of the people are good.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
Live Births	...	...	...	318	259	577	(669)
Legitimate	...	...	...	304	248	552	(649)
Illegitimate	...	...	...	14	11	25	(20)

Birth Rate - 14.54 (17.01) per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
Still Births	...	...	...	7	8	15	(12)
Legitimate	...	...	...	7	8	15	(11)
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	-	-	( 1)

Rate - (still births) per 1,000 population - .37 (.30)

Deaths

Death Rate - 10.40 (9.05) per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

Deaths, Males 215, Females 198, Total - 413 (356)
 Deaths from puerperal causes, Nil (Nil)
 Deaths from other maternal causes, Nil (Nil)

Infantile Mortality Rate - 24.26 (32.88)
 (Rate per 1,000 live births)

				<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
Deaths of infants under one year of age				9 (11)	5 (11)	14	(22)
Deaths of infants under four weeks of age				7 (8)	4 (6)	11	(14)

VITAL STATISTICS - COMPARATIVE TABLE

	Birth rate per 1,000 population		Death rate per 1,000 population. All causes.	Rate per 1,000 live births. Total deaths under one year.
	Live Births	Still Births		
England and Wales	15.2	0.34	11.3	25.5
HINCKLEY U.D.C.	14.54 X	0.37	10.40 X	24.26

X The corrected figures for the birth and death rates after the crude rates have been multiplied by the area comparatibility factors are - 14.24 and 12.06 respectively.

Other Mortality Statistics

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>1954 Total</u>	<u>1953 Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	10	3	13	8
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	2	2	4	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	1	-	1	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	1
8. Measles	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	3	8	10
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	10	-	10	13
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	12	12	6
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	4	4	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	26	20	46	33
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1	5
16. Diabetes	2	5	7	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	28	39	67	53
18. Coronary disease, angina	30	24	54	36
19. Hypertension with heart disease	8	15	23	25
20. Other heart disease	14	21	35	34
21. Other circulatory disease	17	8	25	12

Contd.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>1954 Total</u>	<u>1953 Total</u>
22. Influenza	-	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	4	8	12	10
24. Bronchitis	15	6	21	27
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1	3	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	6	1	7	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	4	4	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	3	6	4
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	3	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	2	1	3	6
32. Other defined and ill defined diseases	19	13	32	44
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	1	-	1	2
34. All other accidents	4	5	9	5
35. Suicide	2	-	2	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
 <u>TOTAL DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES</u>	 <u>215</u> (180)	 <u>198</u> (176)	 <u>413</u>	 <u>356</u>

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. The Public Health Officers of the Authority are set out on Page 2. of the report.
2. Laboratory Facilities

Examinations are almost wholly performed at the Public Health Laboratory at the Groby Road Hospital, Leicester, which is under the control of Dr. N. S. Mair.

Chemical examination of water samples is performed by Mr. S. B. Bratley, F.C.S. of Oadby.

Occasional chemical examination of food is made by the Leicester City Public Analyst, Mr. F. C. Bullock, B.Sc., F.I.C.

The following specimens were examined during the year at the Public Health Laboratory:-

Throat and Nose Swabs	...	...	...	...	...	161
Faeces and Urine specimens	...	...	...	...	...	377
Blood	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pleural Fluid	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sputa	...	...	...	...	...	249
Vaginal Swabs	...	...	...	...	...	6
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	281
Water	...	...	...	...	...	35
Whooping Cough Swabs	...	...	...	...	...	37
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	76
TOTAL						<hr/> 1,228 (1,587) <hr/>

3. Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases

Diphtheria Immunisation

	Children	
	Under five years	5 - 14 years
Total number immunised during year	468 (291)	23 (8)
Total number immunised since beginning of scheme	5864 (5396)	5048 (5025)
Number of children receiving booster dose of immunisation	366 (308)	

The incidence of diphtheria continues to fall. Throughout England and Wales in the last ten years notifications have fallen from 18,500 in 1945 to 182 for 1954. During the same period deaths have fallen from 722 to 9.

Immunisation has proved successful in wiping out Diphtheria but the object of the campaign must be maintained, e.g. to secure immunisation of not less than 75% of babies before their first birthday.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

The following table shows the diseases occurring during 1954 and the distribution of them:-

Disease	Hinckley Central Wards	Barwell	Burbage	Earl Shilton	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	52 (57)	29 (30)	9 (13)	22 (22)	112 (122)
Erysipelas	1 (2)	4 (-)	- (-)	4 (2)	9 (4)
Pneumonia	3 (8)	1 (8)	7 (1)	2 (1)	13 (18)
Dysentery	12 (2)	2 (-)	4 (-)	6 (1)	24 (3)
Measles	2 (157)	1 (93)	2 (61)	- (31)	5 (342)
Whooping Cough	52 (101)	14 (49)	55 (25)	20 (8)	141 (183)
Poliomyelitis	- (12)	- (3)	- (1)	- (2)	- (18)
Meningococcal Infection	X ¹ (1)	- (2)	1 (1)	- (-)	2 (4)
Observation Diphtheria	- (-)	- (1)	- (-)	1 (3)	1 (4)
Enteric Fever	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
Food Poisoning	- (2)	- (4)	- (-)	1 (1)	1 (7)
Para Typhoid B.	- (3)	- (2)	- (-)	- (-)	- (5)
Malaria	- (3)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (3)
Puerperal Pyrexia	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
TOTALS	123 (348)	51 (192)	79 (102)	57 (71)	310 (713)

X - + 1 not confirmed.

(Figures in brackets represent last year's figures - they do not necessarily add up to the total figure shown as some diseases occurred last year but not this).

AGE GROUPS AND SEX

DISEASE		U N D E R						Over	Age	Total		TOTAL
		1	3	5	10	15	25	25	Un-known	M.	F.	
Scarlet Fever	M.	1	7	7	33	2	2	1	-	53		112
	F.	-	5	10	34	9	1	-	-		59	
Erysipelas	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4		9
	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-		5	
Pneumonia	M.	-	-	-	2	-	-	5	-	7		13
	F.	-	-	-	2	1	-	3	-		6	
Dysentery	M.	1	1	4	4	2	-	1	-	13		24
	F.	-	1	1	4	-	1	4	-		11	
Measles	M.	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	3		5
	F.	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-		2	
Whooping Cough	M.	7	17	17	26	-	-	-	-	67		141
	F.	6	18	23	23	1	-	2	1		74	
Meningococcal Infection	M.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		2
	F.	-	X ₁	-	-	-	1	-	-		1	
Observation Diphtheria	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1		1
	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
Enteric Fever	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		1
	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		1	
Food Poisoning	M.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1		1
	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	
Puerperal Pyrexia	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
TOTALS	M.	9	27	28	68	4	2	12	-	150		310
	F.	6	24	35	64	11	3	16	1		160	

X - Not confirmed.

National Assistance Act 1948, s.4.7

Nine cases of old people who were in need of care and attention were dealt with.

Six went into a hospital or home, four went voluntarily and Orders were applied for the other two.

Two persons improved their conditions and two persons showed a very slight improvement.

Fifty visits were made to old people who were alleged to be in need of care and attention.

Tuberculosis

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 or under s.172 of the Public Health Act 1936.

36 new cases were added to the register during the year.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY 1954

AGE	NEW CASES 1954				DEATHS 1954			
	Pulmonary M. F.		Non-Pulmonary M. F.		Pulmonary M. F.		Non-Pulmonary M. F.	
Under 1 Year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" 5 Years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
" 15 "	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-
" 25 "	3	6	1	-	-	1	-	-
" 35 "	3	5	-	1	1	-	-	-
" 45 "	1	1	-	1	3	-	-	-
" 55 "	2	-	-	1	2	1	-	-
Over 55 "	4	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
TOTALS	15	13	3	5	8	2	-	-

DISTRIBUTION OF NEW CASES

District	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Hinckley (Central Wards)	8	4	2	2
Barwell	-	-	-	1
Earl Shilton	3	2	-	1
Burbage	2	3	1	1
Inward transfer of cases outside area	2	4	-	-
TOTALS	15 (21)	13 (16)	3 (2)	5 (4)

To the Chairman and Members of the Hinckley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my twenty seventh Annual Report upon the administration of your Sanitary Inspectors' Department.

The removal of the unfit houses was continued. 89 houses being dealt with by Clearance Area procedure and 9 as "individual unfits". The Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders were ultimately all confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government. I hope the Housing Committee will be able to continue rehousing the displaced persons and that in four or five years the unfit houses in the district will have been cleared. Since 1932, 772 houses have been dealt with and 2,306 persons displaced, most of them having been rehoused by the Council.

It is too early yet to express any opinion upon the results following the operation of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, but it would appear that the purpose of the Act to facilitate the repair of defective houses and prevent their further deterioration is not yet taking place.

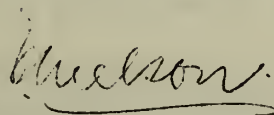
The licensed and club premises have been surveyed, following meetings with interested parties. As a result of these meetings we sought the co-operation of the owners, agents and occupiers, they agreed to co-operate and I hope that our policy of education and co-operation, as against that of enforcement; will be justified by the results obtained.

Once again, I wish to express my thanks to the members and officers of the Council for their interest, support and co-operation. I also wish to express my sincere thanks to the members of the department's staff and to Dr. W. D. Cruickshank, the Medical Officer of Health. The changed circumstances during the year have called for much from the staff and these have been met in a willing and unselfish manner.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Hudson", written over a horizontal line.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY

Quality

The water supply for the district is obtained from two sources.

- (a) Deep well water from Snarestone which is augmented by a supply from a borehole at Chilcote. This supply is a very hard water of great purity.
- (b) Reservoir water from Thornton, part of the City of Leicester Waterworks which is supplied to the district via The Borough of Nuneaton. This is a moderately soft water.

Both supplies are chlorinated.

Quantity

The water supply was maintained throughout the year. Fortunately, the water placed into supply was more than last year, thus, the position was maintained that the average daily consumption was about equal to the quantity of water available. This is a precarious position and there appears to be no prospect of any satisfactory improvement until a supply is obtained from the River Dove Scheme.

The blessing of a pure and abundant water supply seems to be taken for granted in our temperate climate. The purity still exists in our case but the abundance is lacking, this I believe is a temporary phase and it behoves all consumers to exercise care to prevent waste or wilful misuse of our water supply.

Examination of Water Supplies

(a) Town Water

22 samples were taken, 18 for bacteriological examination and 4 for chemical examination.

3 of the samples failed the bacteriological examination.

These samples were taken from one part of the district where complaints had been received of discoloration of the water.

One of the unsatisfactory samples was due to the presence of a consumer's fitting on the house service which had not been properly maintained. When this was removed, a subsequent sample was satisfactory.

Copies of the analyst's reports are set out for

- (a) a sample of water from the Snarestone deep well,
and
(b) a sample from the Dadlington supply.

Sample (a)	Sample (b)
from	from
No.1 High St.	No. 2
Barwell,	and Hollycroft,
taken on 29th November 1954.	

	<u>Parts per Million</u>	
	Sample (a)	Sample (b)
Total Solids	500.0	300.0
Loss on ignition	200.0	250.0
Free ammonia	0	0
Alb. "	0.04	0.06
Nitrogen	0.50	1.00
Oxygen consumed in 4 hours	0.64	1.93
Chlorine	64.0	18.00
Total hardness	300.0	124.00
Permanent hardness	160.0	98.00
Temporary hardness	140.0	26.00
Lead & Copper	Absent	Absent
pH	7.5	7.5
Bacterial count at 37°C	6 organisms per CC	12 organisms per CC
Bacillus Coli	absent in 10 CC	absent in 10 CC

In my opinion both samples are free from sewage and safe for drinking and dietetic purposes.

Signed: SAMUEL B. BRATLEY

Analytical & Consulting Chemist.

The pH. value of the samples varied from 7.2 to 8.5 and the chemical composition of the water would appear to prevent any likelihood of plumbo-solvent-action.

(b) Well Water

13 samples were taken for bacteriological examination, 6 being declared satisfactory.

4 of the samples were also submitted for a chemical examination, 2 of them being declared unsatisfactory.

Following these results, one well was closed and a "town" supply provided, three wells were emptied and cleansed and one Chlorination plant was installed in connection with a well water supply to a dwelling house and cafe. The premises concerned are well beyond the reach of the town's mains.

Particulars of water supply to dwelling houses in the district.

Almost the whole of the population have an internal supply of town water, there being 38,959 people in 12,157 houses, in this position. 692 people in 233 houses have a supply of town water from external standposts and 309 people in 107 houses obtain a well or spring supply.

6 houses, formerly occupied by 14 people who obtained a supply from external standposts, were demolished during the year.

2,022 yards of 4" water main was constructed to meet the needs of building development.

2. SEWERAGE

Stoke Golding part of Trinity Ward

Permission has now been obtained to proceed with the overhaul and extension of the sewerage system.

The completion of this scheme should lead to considerable improvement in the sanitary circumstances of Stoke Golding.

3. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The works of extension at the main Sketchley Works were almost complete at the end of the year.

A contract has been accepted for the overhaul and improvement of the small disposal works in Bullfurlong Lane, Burbage.

4. CESSPOOLS

Six new cesspools were built in connection with properties situate some distance from the nearest sewer, one existing cesspool was found and this, together with the cesspool at one other dwelling house was abolished and the drainage systems connected to the sewer.

The position at the end of the year was that:-

there were,

122 cesspools and 12 septic tanks which received the drainage from 178 properties.

5. SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

There are 12,817 water closets and 216 pail closets in the Urban District.

No pail closets were converted during the year.

Of the 216 pail closets, 100 are situate in the Stoke Golding part of Trinity Ward and when the sewerage works have been completed this number should be considerably reduced.

There are no privies, privy middens or fixed ashpits in the district.

6. PUBLIC CLEANSING

House refuse collection and disposal is dealt with by direct labour under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor. Seven low side loading Karrier Bantam vehicles are used for refuse collection.

House refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on land adjoining Heath Lane, Earl Shilton, and the trade refuse by partial controlled tipping at the Stapleton Lane, Barwell disposal works where much of the combustible type of trade refuse is burnt.

No complaints were received throughout the year regarding either of the tips.

It was not possible to maintain a weekly collection of refuse throughout the year.

7. DUSTBINS

During the year 387 inspections were made at 118 premises regarding the provision of satisfactory dustbins. In 52 instances informal notice was given. No Statutory notice was served. 100 new bins were provided and 3 were satisfactorily repaired.

After three owners of dwellings in the district had objected to providing dustbins for their tenants, the Health Committee instructed the Clerk of the Council to prepare a Memorandum on the law relating to the provision of Dustbins.

After considering the Clerk's Memorandum, the Health Committee decided:-

- (a) that where a house was let at the same rent as that paid in 1939, the tenant should be called upon to provide the dustbin, and
- (b) that when Statutory Notice was served requiring the provision of a dustbin, explanatory information on the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953, be included.

Under the provisions of the 1953 Act, provided that the person upon whom the Notice has been served serves the appropriate Notice on the other party to the tenancy, then the Court may determine who is the proper person to provide the dustbin having regard to the terms and condition of the tenancy.

As stated last year, under the existing system of obtaining the provision of dustbins, varying periods of delay almost invariably take place before a new one is provided. A defective dustbin may be as potentially dangerous to people as a defective drain and this point should be borne in mind when considering alternative methods which now exist for the provision of dustbins.

8. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Complaints

- 363 recorded complaints were received.
- 137 concerned public health matters.
- 118 concerned infestations of rats, mice, beetles, etc.
- 108 concerned housing matters.

Premises

- 903 premises were inspected relating to
- 943 nuisances or defects which were discovered and dealt with.

Number of Inspections

	<u>Initial</u> <u>Inspections</u>	<u>Re-visits</u>
Accumulations	28	43
Animal Keeping	9	18
Dustbins, Refuse Collection and		
Sanitary Accommodation	181	315
Nuisances	485	1278
Drainage Works	251	351
Moveable Dwellings	42	85
Smoke Abatement	53	147
Housing	202	361
Overcrowding	23	1
Verminous Premises & Persons	60	70
Water Supply & Sampling	60	30
Food & Milk Sampling	321	-
Rats & Mice Destruction	1009	390
Food Premises	390	461
Ice Cream Premises	17	7
Food Poisoning Investigations	43	5
Meat & Food Inspection	926	244
Market Inspections	8	49
Slaughter-houses	33	53
Knackers Yard	4	7
Dairies	33	62
Factories Act	37	73
Shops Act	56	25
Infectious Diseases	149	38
Dysentery Investigations	44	110
National Assistance Act	51	-
Pet Animals Act	5	7
House Improvement Grants	36	22
Other Inspections	500	100
	<u>5,056</u>	<u>4,352</u>

GRAND TOTAL = 9,408

9. NOTICES

Informal

	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Public Health</u>
Outstanding on 1st January	40	28
Issued during year	105	152
Complied with during year	85	150
Statutory action necessary	1	1
Outstanding 31st December	51	30

Statutory

	<u>Housing</u>	<u>Public Health</u>
Outstanding on 1st January	-	1
Issued during year	1	1
Complied with during year	1	1
Outstanding 31st December	-	1

10. SUMMARY ACTION

Three summonses were issued and two convictions obtained.

- (1) One summons was for a contravention of s.9 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 for selling food unfit for human consumption. An adhesive type of finger dressing was found inside a link of sausage. The manufacturer was fined £10.
- (2) Following many observations, spread over a long period, on a factory chimney in Burbage and the receipt of many complaints, application was made to the Magistrates for a Nuisance Order following the occupiers non-compliance with an Abatement Notice.

The offending chimney stack received smoke from two boilers used by two separate companies. The Magistrates dismissed the summons against one company who had a modern automatic underfeed stoker fitted to their boiler and made an Order for the smoke nuisance to be abated in three months against the other company and inflicted a fine of £5.

11. SHOPS ACT

81 inspections were made in connection with 21 premises.

11 contraventions were found, 8 being abated at the end of the year.

6 contraventions were also abated which were outstanding from the previous year.

12. MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There are no licensed sites in the Urban District.

127 inspections were made relating to 30 moveable dwellings or sites.

16 new applications were received during the year,

3 new licences were issued when conditions were satisfactory.

Of the remainder of the new applications:-

6 were withdrawn after our requirements had been explained and the sites were vacated.

2 were withdrawn after owners moved into their own housing accommodation.

2 were withdrawn after Planning approval had been refused.

2 were granted with conditions attached but no licence had been issued at the end of the year, and

1 was granted subject to Planning approval being received.

14 applications for renewal of licences were received and granted for one year.

25 contraventions were found during the year.

10 were abated by the completion of structural works,

14 were abated by the removal of the moveable dwelling or withdrawal of the application for the licence.

1 was unabated, an unwholesome well water supply for one moveable dwelling.

7 moveable dwellings were removed from sites during the year,

1 moveable dwelling was vacated and awaiting removal from the site at the end of the year.

Three families from moveable dwellings obtained their own rehousing accommodation and one family was rehoused by the Housing Department of the Council.

18 moveable dwellings were in use at the end of the year.

13. REGULATED BUILDINGS

(a) Offensive Trade

There is one offensive trade premises, a tripe dresser, which is used very little. The premises are maintained in a satisfactory condition.

(b) Common Lodging Houses

There are no common Lodging Houses in the district.

14. THE OLD METAL DEALERS ORDER

6 persons have registered their premises with the Council. One person vacated registered premises during the year.

15. THE PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

5 premises were licensed as pet shops.
12 inspections being made at the premises.

The occupiers of two shops were called upon to remove an infestation of mice and tidy up the premises. Generally the premises are conducted in a reasonable manner.

16. RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

We have 7 registered premises. One registered premises was vacated during the year.

No premises are licensed for the manufacture or storage of rag flock. 10 inspections were made during the year and no contraventions were found, neither were any samples of flock submitted to a prescribed analyst.

17. SMOKE ABATEMENT

66 observations were made on chimneys in connection with 18 premises and 200 inspections were made.

21 nuisances were discovered, these were abated by the following action:-

- 10 by more care in stoking.
- 1 by the installation of a grit arrestor and the fixing of a new chimney.
- 2 by increasing the height of the chimney stacks.
- 8 by the fixing of smoke abatement appliances to two boilers.

As referred to in paragraph 10, under Summary Action, proceedings were taken against the joint users of one works chimney stack where smoke nuisances had been occurring for some time.

Before taking this action every effort had been made to get the nuisance abated informally. 65 half hour observations were taken on the chimney from the beginning of our investigations and the emission of smoke was in such quantity as to be deemed a nuisance on 27 occasions. Before proceedings began, a Fuel Research Station type smoke abatement door was fixed to one boiler and a similar door was fixed to the other boiler after the Nuisance Order had been obtained.

Action was taken under sections 94, 97 and 103, of the Public Health Act 1936.

It was necessary to proceed under s.97 as the boilers used by two separate firms discharged into the same chimney stack. The boiler plant used by one firm was modern and fitted with an automatic underfeed smoke abatement plant. During our observations when only this boiler was in operation, it appeared to be efficient.

The Magistrates dismissed the summons against this firm.

Very few of the industrial premises in the district emit any excessive smoke. About 95% of the factory boilers in use in the district have some form of smoke abatement plant fitted to them.

The few premises referred to above are under constant observation and action is in hand to obtain improvement. Unfortunately, these premises are situated in the centre of the town. In another instance, although smoke abatement plant and a grit arrestor have been fixed to the boiler, occasional complaints are received from the occupiers of dwellings which surround the factory premises.

The Report of the Committee on Air Pollution (The Beaver Report) was published towards the end of 1954 and there seems to be prospects of a Clean Air Act being made.

If the recommendations for new legislation which are set out in the Report become law a notable step forward will be made to combat the smoke nuisance from both industrial and domestic premises.

The Report states the estimated annual cost of air pollution to this Country is £250 millions, not including the value of the fuel that goes to the making of smoke.

As stated in my last year's report the atmosphere of the Urban District is remarkably clear and whilst there is no doubt we shall benefit from new legislation envisaged above, the difference will be slight as compared with that which should occur in the centres of heavy industry and large cities.

18. ERADICATION OF VERMIN

122 inspections were made regarding verminous premises.

3 houses were fumigated and sprayed for bed bugs.

The majority of our inspections were to investigate and deal with infestations varying from Bats to Furniture mites.

19. VERMINOUS PERSONS

8 inspections were made under this heading. Two persons were cleansed during the year, the Cleansing Centre being used on three occasions for this purpose.

The Cleansing Centre in Wood Street, Hinckley which was made in a condemned dwelling house as an emergency war time measure is very unsatisfactory. The Health Committee have approved alternative proposals and I hope I shall be able to state in my next report that a Cleansing Centre of a more satisfactory standard is available for use.

20. HOUSING

A. New Houses

Houses, permanent type, completed during the year:-

By local authority	...	119
By private enterprise	...	222

Houses in course of erection at the end of year:-

By local authority	...	106
By private enterprise	...	265

Total number of post-war houses completed:-

By local authority	...	1,316
By private enterprise	...	631

Number of applicants for Council houses at end of year:-

Number of applications received during year	...	304
---	-----	-----

Number of families rehoused since the termination of hostilities:-

(a) in new houses	...	1,321
(b) in vacancies which have arisen	...	334

21. B. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|---|---------|
| (1) | (a) | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | ... 355 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | ... 948 |
| (2) | (a) | Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 | ... 98 |
| | (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | ... 284 |
| (3) | | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | ... 98 |
| (4) | | Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | ... 257 |

22. C. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	... 195
---	---------

23. D. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

(1) Public Health Acts

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

- | | | |
|-----|---|---------|
| (a) | by owners | ... Nil |
| (b) | by local authority in default of owners | ... Nil |

(2) Housing Act, 1936

Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9,10,11 and 16).

- | | | |
|-----|---|---------|
| (a) | by owners | ... 1 |
| (b) | by local authority in default of owners | ... Nil |

24. E. REMOVAL OF UNFIT HOUSES

- (a) The following 89 houses were represented and dealt with under Part III of the Housing Act 1936 in 19 Areas.

	<u>No. of Houses</u>	<u>No. of Persons</u>
Area No. 53. High Street (Earl Shilton) C.O. No's. 22, 22 ¹ / ₂ , 24, 26, 28, 30 & 32, High St.	7	18
Area No. 54. Wood Street (Earl Shilton) C.O. No's. 8 ¹ / ₂ , 16 & 18, Wood Street, Earl Shilton.	3	5
Area No. 55. The Nooks (Earl Shilton) C.O. No's. 1 and 2, The Nooks.	2	5
Area No. 56. Church Street (No. 3) Earl Shilton C.O. No's. 85, 87 & 89, Church Street, Earl Shilton.	3	7
Area No. 57. The Hollow (Earl Shilton) C.O. No's. 28, 30, 34, 36 and 38, The Hollow, Earl Shilton.	5	11
Area No. 58. Station Road (No. 2) Earl Shilton. C.O. No's. 76, 78, 80, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100 & 102, Station Road, Earl Shilton.	9	22
Area No. 59. The Common (No. 1) Barwell C.O. No's. 5 and 7, The Common, Barwell.	2	4
Area No. 60. The Common (No. 2) Barwell C.P.O. No's. 24, 26, 28 and 30, The Common, Barwell.	4	6
Area No. 61. Whites Yard & High Street, Barwell. C.O. No's. 1, 2 & 4, Whites Yard & No's. 88 & 90, High Street.	5	12
Area No. 62. Mill Street (No. 1) Barwell C.O. No's. 13, 15 & 17, Mill Street, Barwell.	3	10
Area No. 63. Mill Street (No. 2) Barwell C.P.O. No's. 29, 31, 33 & 35, Mill Street, Barwell.	4	6
Area No. 64. Windsor Street (No. 1) Burbage C.P.O. No's 4, 6, 8, 10, 10a and 12, Windsor Street and one unnumbered house adjoining No. 2 Windsor Street.	7	4

		<u>No. of Houses</u>	<u>No. of Persons</u>
	Area No 65. Windsor Street (No. 2)Burbage C.O. No's. 26, 26a, 28 and 28X, Windsor St.Burbage.	4	8
✕	Area No.66. Church Street, Burbage. No's. 15, 15 ¹ / ₄ , 17, 19 & 19 ¹ / ₂ , Church Street. Burbage.	5	13
✕	Area No.67. Freemans Lane (No.1) Burbage. No's. 14, 16, 18, 20 & 22, Freemans Lane,Burbage.	5	9
+	Area No.68. Freemans Lane (No.2) Burbage C.P.O. No's. 23, 25 and 27, Freemans Lane in the Clearance Area and No. 29 Freemans Lane outside the Area.	3 (1)	3
	Area No. 69. Trinity Lane (No.2) Hinckley C.O. No. 24 and 26, Trinity Lane, Hinckley.	2	6
	Area No. 70. Chapel Street (Earl Shilton) C.P.O. No's. 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9, Chapel Street and No's 20, 22, 26, 28 and 30, Church St. Earl Shilton.	10	55
	Area No. 71. Leicester Road (Hinckley) C.O. No's. 29,31,33,35,37 & 39, Leicester Rd. Hinckley.	6	22
		<hr/>	
		+	89 226
		<hr/> <hr/>	

✕ Areas No. 66 and No. 67 were purchased by agreement from the owners, so no Orders were made for them.

+ Area No. 68, included 3 houses coloured pink in the Clearance Area and one coloured grey, outside the Area.

The whole of these Orders were confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government during 1955 with the exception of Areas No. 66 and 67 referred to above, the unnumbered house in Area No. 64, which was used as a tool store, and one house in Area No. 71, which was owned by the Urban Council. One house in this Area, No. 29 was declared to be a well maintained house under s.42 of the 1936 Act.

(b) Demolition Orders

Demolition Orders were made upon the following houses:-

27, Derby Road, Hinckley.	...	5 persons
29, " " "	...	5 "
31, " " "	...	3 "
43, Druid Street, Hinckley.	...	4 "
45, " " "	...	1 "
47, " " "	...	2 "
49, " " "	...	Vacant
19, Stockwell Head, "	...	4 persons
58a, Castle Street, "	...	3 "

9 Demolition Orders

27 persons

(c) Houses demolished

(a) In Clearance Areas

No's. 126 and 128, High Street, Barwell. 8 persons displaced

(b) Individual Unfit Houses

No's. 2 and 4, Druid Street, Hinckley.	1	"
63, Stockwell Head, Hinckley.	5	"
No's. 1, 2 & 3, Shipmans Yard, Hinckley.	5	"
No's. 10 and 12, Freemans Lane, Burbage.	12	"

TOTAL - 8 houses and 23 persons displaced.

No. 1 Druid Street and

No.15 Church Walk, Hinckley, were demolished by the Council who owned them and 2 persons were displaced.

x (c) Future Action

The programme of Slum Clearance approved by the Council provides for dealing with 106 houses during 1955,
59 in De Montfort Ward,
41 in Earl Shilton Ward, and
6 in Trinity Ward.

The unfit houses dealt with since 1932, are,

- (a) As Individual Unfit houses,
263 Orders made and 766 persons displaced.
- (b) In Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders
509 houses and 1540 persons displaced.

TOTAL

772 houses dealt with and 2306 persons displaced.

25. F. HOUSING REPAIRS

During the year 195 unfit or defective houses were repaired as a result of informal action.

It is not possible at present to inspect houses systematically and call for their reconditioning or repair. Our hands are full dealing with the removal of the unfit and worn out houses and performing our other duties, furthermore, I very much doubt whether the labour is available to deal with the building of new houses and other buildings, the existing maintenance work and an additional amount of house repair work.

When the unfit houses have been removed, this aspect of housing will then be attended to.

26. G. HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV. - OVERCROWDING

(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	....	6
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	....	10
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	....	48
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	....	1
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	....	7
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	....	72

The 7 cases of overcrowding which were relieved were as a result of housing accommodation being provided by the Housing Management Sub-Committee.

Information regarding families who are legally overcrowded is sent to the Housing Superintendent for attaching to their application for housing accommodation.

27. H. HOUSING SUMMARY

- (a) Total number of occupied houses in district, 12430
(b) Total number of Council houses occupied in district, 2798

28. I. HOUSING ACT 1949

The Council decided in November to operate the part of this Act dealing with Improvement Grants for the modernisation of suitable houses. From this period to the end of the year 48 enquiries were made relating to the obtaining of a grant.

29. J. RENT RESTRICTION ACTS

18 cases were dealt with and entered in my register.

5 regarding proposals from landlords to increase rent,

6 regarding proposed rent increases from tenants,

4 " excessive rents from tenants,

1 " rent of sub-tenant, and

2 " sub-tenancy conditions.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 which commenced to operate from 1st August 1954 caused a material increase in the verbal enquiries received regarding rent problems.

Copies of the prescribed Statutory forms as set out in the Rent Restriction Regulations 1954 and The Housing Repairs (Increase of Rent) Regulations, 1954, have been cyclostyled to enable copies to be given to the enquirers. These have helped considerably as there are 28 paragraphs of explanatory notes for use in connection with the forms, far too many to explain satisfactorily or to remember by the enquirers.

One application for a Certificate of Disrepair under s.26 of the 1954 Act was received and granted.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION
OF FOOD

30. MILK SUPPLY
DAIRIES

46 inspections were made at 11 registered dairies. 25 contraventions were found, 18 being abated at the end of the year plus two abated from action taken in 1953.

The contraventions found were:-

- 10 relating to cleansing items,
- 6 " " structural deficiencies,
- 3 " " utensils,
- 2 " " inadequate supply of hot water,
- 3 " " unsatisfactory clothing, and
- 1 " " washing facilities.

Of the eleven dairies in the district,

- 4 deal in raw milk,
- 4 " " bottled milk,
- 2 were vacated during the year and are no longer used, and
- 1 dairy is temporarily out of use.

Distributors

- 49 inspections were made in connection with 16 of the persons on the register.
- 7 contraventions were found,
- 2 of these being abated plus
- 6 contraventions following action commenced in 1953.

The contraventions which were outstanding at the end of the year were 2 regarding the need for cleansing of the walls and ceilings, 2 regarding unsatisfactory fittings and 1 regarding the absence of suitable screening.

There are two dairies where milk is pasteurised. One has a "Holder" type plant and conditions are good. A new bottle washing machine was installed during the year.

The second dairy has changed from a "Holder" type plant to a "High Temperature Short Time" plant. This business has outgrown the premises and larger accommodation is required to ensure a better standard being maintained.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949.

(a) Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk

14 Dealers licences and 1 Supplementary licence have been granted to use the designation "Pasteurised". This is an increase of 5 over last year. No licences to use the designation "Sterilised" were applied for. The wholesale dairy who formerly sold Sterilised milk was absorbed by a Coventry company who ceased to continue their business in this district.

The increase in the sale of Pasteurised milk is connected with the requirements of the Regulations plus the likelihood of the district being included in a "specified" area where only heat treated milk or milk from Tuberculin Tested herds can be sold.

(b) Raw Milk

17 Dealers licences have been granted for the sale of Tuberculin Tested milk, an increase of 4 over last year.

Milk Samples

(a) Bacteriological

	Tuber- culin Tested (farm bott'd)	Tuber- culin Tested	Accred- ited	Non- Desig- nated	Past- eurised	Tuber- culin Tested Past.	TOTAL
SATISFACTORY	12	36	5	12	29	6	102
UN- SATISFACTORY	-	5	1	2	-	1	9
TOTAL	12	41	6	14	29	7	111
Percentage Un- satisfactory	-	12.2%	16.6%	14.2%	-	14.2%	8.1%

Phosphatase Test

The whole of the Pasteurised samples passed this test which is an indication that the milk had been satisfactorily heat treated.

By an informal arrangement between the County Sanitary Officer and myself I set out the results of the bacteriological examination of samples from our two pasteurising plants and of the Phosphatase tests made on the milk samples.

	<u>From</u> <u>Dairy A.</u>	<u>From</u> <u>Dairy B.</u>
Total number of milk samples	84	84
Results of Methylene Blue Test:-		
Satisfactory	84	81
Results of Phosphatase Test:-		
Satisfactory	83	84
Un-		
Satisfactory	1	-
Bottle Sterility Test:-		
No. of Bottles taken	18	36
Satisfactory	18	36
Not fully	-	-
Satisfactory		
Churn Sterility Test:-		
No. of churns tested	6	18
Satisfactory	6	14
Un-		
Satisfactory	-	4

These results are based on the standards set out in last year's report and used by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

(b) Biological Samples

81 samples were taken mainly from producers' premises and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Groby Road, Leicester.

71 of these were negative, 2 were positive for tuberculosis and 8 for Br. abortus.

The following tables show the types of milk sampled and the results obtained.

TABLE I.

TYPES OF MILK & RESULTS

	Ungraded	Accredited	T.T.	T.T. (Farm Bottled)	Pasteur- ised	T.T. (Past- eurised)	TOTAL
NEGATIVE	13	5	37	12	3	1	71
T.B. POSITIVE	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
BR.AB. POSITIVE	-	4	4	-	-	-	8
TOTAL	14	10	41	12	3	1	81

TABLE II.

DISTRIBUTION OF MILK

	Ungraded	Accredited	T.T.	T.T. (Farm Bottled)	Pasteur- ised	T.T. (Past- eurised)	TOTAL
PRODUCER RETAILERS ONLY	10	4	3	9	-	-	26
PRODUCER RETAILERS SURPLUS TO PAST. ESTAB.	4	-	4	-	-	-	8
MILK SENT TO PAST. ESTAB. ONLY	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
BOUGHT RAW BY RETAILER FROM PRODUCER OR PAST. ESTAB.	-	5	34	3	-	-	42
PAST. FROM PAST. ESTAB.	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
TOTAL	14	10	41	12	3	1	81

TABLE III.TYPES AND NUMBER OF PRODUCERS SAMPLED

	No. of Producers	No. of Samples
UNGRADED	6	14
ACCREDITED	5	10
T.T.	12	41
T.T. (FARM BOTTLED)	3	12
PASTEURISED	2	3
T.T. PASTEURISED	1	1
TOTAL	29	81

Positive Samples(a) Tuberculosis

One was obtained from a herd producing non-designated milk which was sold in its raw state direct to the consumers. After the herd had been examined by the Divisional Veterinary Officer one cow was removed and slaughtered and one was isolated.

A Stoppage notice was served on the farmer requiring the milk from his herd to be heat-treated on the 6th May. The isolated cow was certified as being non-infective and the herd as being free from infection on 16th June 1955 and the notice was withdrawn. A claim was received and met for £6/18/7d. the additional expenses incurred in submitting the milk for pasteurisation.

This farmer has now voluntarily ceased to sell raw milk and all milk from his herd is pasteurised.

The second positive sample was one taken from a herd of 42 cows, the milk being mainly sold in its raw state. The Divisional Veterinary Officer examined the herd, 3 cows were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938, one following clinical examination of the herd and two following the biological examination of group samples. The Veterinary Officer stated no "Stoppage Notice" should be served.

The milk from the herd is now pasteurised.

(b) Brucella abortus

Five dairy herds were infected, Stoppage notices were served upon the owners of two of them. One cow was removed for slaughter and the milk from the five herds is now pasteurised.

Two of the farmers requested individual cow samples should be taken to enable the infected cows to be found and suitably dealt with. 43 samples were taken for this purpose, 7 of them being positive on the Ring Test, 4 on the Whey Agglutination Test and one on the Direct Culture Test.

One case of Undulant Fever was drawn to our attention and this appeared to be connected with the farm referred to in last year's report where steps were taken to deal with the infection.

The likelihood of our district becoming part of a "Specified" area where only Heat treated or Tuberculin Tested milk can be sold will help considerably to prevent disease from infected herds. It will however, still be possible to sell Tuberculin Tested milk in its raw state.

ICE CREAM

31. Registered Premises

(1) Manufacture and Retail	- 5
(2) Manufacture only	- Nil
(3) Retail only	- 102

77 inspections were made at 73 premises. No ice-cream is manufactured for sale in the district. That on sale being almost wholly produced by the large national companies and sold in prepacked containers or wrappers.

No samples were taken during the year.

32. MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

(a) Until July 3rd there was one regional slaughterhouse, after July 4th, there were 7 private slaughterhouses.

Ante-mortem inspection is made on every possible occasion and one hundred per cent post-mortem inspection takes place.

(b) Carcases Inspected and Condemned

TABLE I. gives the return for the whole of 1954.

TABLE II. " " " " " period from 1st January to 30th June, i.e. the period whilst slaughtering was under government control.

TABLE III. gives the return for the period from 5th July to 31st December 1954, when private slaughtering was resumed.

TABLE I.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED DURING WHOLE OF YEAR 1954

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	TOTAL
Number killed	1398	278	31	7599	3265	12571
Number Inspected	1398	278	31	7599	3265	12571
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS</u>						<u>Total weight in lbs.</u>
Whole Carcases condemned	4	3	1	13	3	6023
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	162	102	9	834	687	6766
Percentage of No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	11.874%	37.76%	32.258%	11.146%	21.133%	12789
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole Carcases condemned	4	2	-	-	1	4248
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	129	62	1	-	61	6977½
Percentage of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	9.513%	23.021%	3.225%	-	1.898%	11225½

TOTAL WEIGHT CONDEMNED DURING YEAR - 10 Tons, 14 cwts. 1 qtr. 1st. 4½ lbs.

TABLE II.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED FROM 1ST JANUARY 1954
TO END OF GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF MEAT 30TH JUNE 1954.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	TOTAL
Number Killed	534	258	25	3615	1375	5807
Number Inspected	534	258	25	3615	1375	5807
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS</u>						<u>Total weight in lbs.</u>
Whole Carcasses condemned	4	3	1	11	2	5679
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	103	101	9	743	533	5874
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	20.037%	40.31%	40%	20.857%	38.909%	11,553
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	2	-	-	1	2740
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	75	59	1	-	31	5071
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	14.419%	23.643%	4%	-	2.327%	7811

TOTAL WEIGHT CONDEMNED - 8 Tons. 12 cwts. 3 Qtrs. 1 st. 2 lbs.

TABLE III.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED FROM 5TH JULY 1954
(RESUMPTION OF PRIVATE SLAUGHTERING) TO 31ST DECEMBER 1954

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	TOTAL
Number Killed	864	20	6	3984	1890	6764
Number Inspected	864	20	6	3984	1890	6764
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS</u>						<u>Total weight in lbs.</u>
Whole Carcasses condemned	-	-	-	2	1	344
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	59	1	-	91	154	892
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.828%	5%	0%	2.334%	8.201%	1236
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	-	-	-	1508
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	54	3	-	-	30	1906½
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.481%	15%	-	-	1.587%	3414½

TOTAL WEIGHT CONDEMNED - 2 Tons. 1 cwt. 2 Qtrs. 2½ lbs.

with 638 last year. These inspections were made to scattered premises and at all times, many inspections having to be made outside normal working hours and on Saturday and Sundays. As the law is at present, if all meat prepared for human consumption is to be inspected, I cannot see much change occurring in this particular duty. One hundred per cent inspection has been made since 1927.

(d) Other Foods

The following unsound food was inspected, condemned, surrendered and suitably disposed of:-

Commodity	lbs.	ozs.	tins	jars	Other container
Fruit	1359	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	1100	-	2 bottles
Tomatoes	608	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	439		
Vegetables	305	9	329		
Soup	33	7	41		
Tomato Juice	3	3	3		
Pickle	5	5	-	8	
Mayonnaise	18	-	-	48	
Bacon	24	-	-		
Beef	237	-	-		
Mutton	1	-	-		
Pork	47	-	-		
Veal	3	-	-		
Ham	92	10	7		
Kidneys	-	12	-		
Braised Hearts	1	10	-		
Sausage	22	-	-		
Tongue	53	4	11		
Stewed Steak	40	9	43		
Pork Luncheon Meat	79	14	91		
Corned Beef	141	12	50		
Rabbit	-	8	1		
Meat Loaf	11	10	17		
Suet	2	-	-		
Fish	65	4	171		
Fresh Fish Roe	119	-	-		
Biscuits	13	15	-		
Cakes	8	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	-		
Pudding Mixture	6	5	-		
Jam	10	-	3	6	
Coffee	-	2	1		
Instant Postum	1	8	-	6	
Spaghetti	3	-	5		
Faggots	-	-	-	-	164 in number
Milk	251 $\frac{5}{8}$ lbs.	pts. equivalent.	134		
Cream	25 lbs.	14 ozs.	70		
Cheese	28	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	-		
Dried Fruit	114	2	-		
Coconut Ice	102	-	-		
Egg Powder	3165	-	-	7 Barrels	

Total Amount of Other Foods Condemned

2516 tins, 68 Jars, 2 bottles, 4 pkts, and 7 Barrels containing 6756 lbs. $7\frac{1}{4}$ oz. weight of foodstuff and $251\frac{5}{8}$ pints equivalent of tinned milk, also 164 faggots.

Examination of Food

(a) Bacteriological

60 tins of tinned cream were surrendered following a sample of the same brand of cream in another town being found to contain B. typhosus. 45 of the 60 tins were examined at the Public Health Laboratory and declared to be sterile.

2 tins of Corned Beef from a batch which had been the cause of many complaints regarding their unsound and unsatisfactory condition were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and reported upon as sterile.

Food Sampling

The Urban Council is not a Food and Drugs authority, the County Council through their Public Control Dept. administer these provisions of the Act. I am indebted to Mr. G. G. Powell, Chief Inspector of this Department for the following information of the number of samples taken for chemical analysis from traders in our district.

Milk

	<u>Total Samples</u>	45.	
Analysis:-	<u>Retail</u>	16.	All Genuine.
	<u>Wholesale</u>	20.	7 Satisfactory 13 Below standard Solids Not Fat, in connection with
which	<u>Appeal to Cow</u>		9 all found below standard in Solids Not Fat. (2 suspected Added Water not confirmed).

All unsatisfactory samples were from churns of one producer, and the Appeal to Cow Samples from the same producer confirmed low standard milk. This case was therefore referred to the Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Other Foodstuffs, including Ice Cream, Medicines, Oranges, Sausages, etc.

Satisfactory	25
Not Satisfactory	Nil

33. SLAUGHTERHOUSES

On the 1st March, the Vice Chairman of the Health Committee, the Clerk of the Council and the Chief Sanitary Inspector representing the Health Committee met the local butchers and meat traders Associations to discuss future slaughtering facilities. 27 butchers attended. They were asked to express their opinion upon the position and on the following questions:-

- (1) The Council to erect an abattoir,
- (2) All slaughtering to continue at the Central Slaughterhouse as at present,
- (3) Use the existing Central Slaughterhouse to its full capacity and augment the facilities available by the use of the nine licensed slaughterhouses.

Upon a show of hands being made, 16 voted in favour of question 1 and none against., there was no support for question 2 and 15 voted in favour of question 3 and none against.

A further meeting was held with the Associations and afterwards the Health Committee decided that notice under s.57(3) of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 be served upon the occupiers of slaughterhouses which were licensed in 1939, setting out a schedule of works to make the premises suitable for use and stating that if these were satisfactorily completed they would be given a licence for the maximum period possible, expiring in July 1959.

7 occupiers of slaughterhouses undertook to do the required works and these slaughterhouses were used from 4th July onwards.

The schedule of works required was modified in accordance with the Ministry's Memorandum which stressed this action was to meet slaughtering requirements during an interim period only. The provision of a separate cooling room was not therefore pursued.

At the end of the year the scheduled works had been completed at three of the slaughterhouses and work was in hand at three others.

The Government Committee has not yet reported upon the siting of central slaughterhouses under their modified centralisation scheme.

34. KNACKER YARD

There is one Knacker Yard which is situate in Barwell Ward. The premises are kept in a satisfactory condition, 11 inspections were made during the year. Attention was drawn to the need for colouring the meat with the prescribed green dye immediately after slaughter and dressing.

A supply of town water has not yet been made available.

The Health Committee after considering Circular M.F.16/54 which was issued with the Model Byelaws, series II. on the Sanitary Conditions, Management, and Keeping of Records for Knacker's Yards decided the Byelaws should be adopted for use in the district subject to action being adjourned for one year to enable the licensed Knacker to make his premises conform with the provisions of the Byelaws.

35. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Constant attention has been given to food premises and the handling of food.

932 inspections were made at 618 premises. 272 contraventions were found, 129 being abated at the end of the year. 69 contraventions were abated from action commenced in 1953 and 1 from action commenced in 1952.

The type of premises visited and action taken, apart from Ice Cream premises and dairies referred to earlier, was as follows:-

PREMISES	VISITED	INSPECTIONS	CONTRAVENTIONS	ABATED
Meat Shops	88	102	62	21
Meat Rooms	21	35	14	6
Fried Fish & Chipped Potatoes	54	52	30	15
Canteens	21	44	7	3
Bakchouses	36	45	22	10
Others	281	303	106	51
TOTAL	501	581	241	106

36. LICENSED & CLUB PREMISES

In connection with the Clean Food Campaign it was decided to investigate the sanitary conditions existing in the Public Houses and Clubs in the district. In October 1953 a report was prepared on the proposed method of inspection and standard to be adopted in Licensed Premises, and this was submitted to, and accepted by, the Health Committee.

It was then decided to fully explain the intentions of this investigation to the persons concerned and to discuss with them our proposals. This was achieved by circulating the above report to Brewery Company Representatives, Club Representatives and Licensees, and then holding two meetings early this year between the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector and (a) representatives of the Brewery Companies, the Licensed Victuallers' Association and the Clubs, and afterwards (b) with the licensees of Public Houses, and the secretaries and stewards of licensed Clubs. At both meetings a full discussion took place and many questions and observations were dealt with. The trade representatives, at the first meeting, expressed their approval of the method we had adopted in meeting, and discussing the hygienic conditions of their premises etc., and they unanimously agreed to co-operate with the Health Committee and their officers in this work. A similar expression of co-operation was also received from the persons attending the second meeting.

A total of 81 premises were subsequently inspected, comprising 55 public houses (including hotels) and 26 licensed clubs. The main points of investigation were (a) ventilation (b) glass washing and sterilising (c) overspill beer (d) sanitary conveniences and (e) other hygienic aspects.

The inspections revealed the existence of many unsatisfactory conditions and a report upon these was submitted to the Health Committee, and recommendations were formulated and approved to alleviate these conditions. It was surprising to note that 8 premises still had lead beer lines: 6 premises had no glass washing sink in a suitable position: 6 premises had glass washing sinks with the waste discharging into a bucket below the sink and 31 washing up sinks had no hot water over the sink.

Before the end of the year a further inspection of the premises had been commenced and it was discovered that certain works had already been carried out at several premises to improve conditions. Following this inspection, schedules of required works are sent to the owner and occupier of each public house and the secretary in the case of a club.

I hope I shall be able to report that before the end of next year a considerable improvement in the hygienic standard in licensed premises will have been effected.

37. BYELAWS SECTION 15, FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The provisions of the byelaws are constantly borne in mind when inspecting food premises.

The position in the open weekly market is about the same. No progress appears to have been made with the provision of adequate washing and sanitary facilities for the traders.

The protective display cases for the fish traders in the market are still in regular use although the traders still have a tendency to favour placing fish on the open stall.

The open market was inspected 57 times, 149 omissions, mainly of inadequate protection of food were found. 61 being abated at the end of the year.

The protection of perishable food against contamination in the market becomes more important and at the same time more difficult. Congestion of motor vehicles and people increases weekly and how to protect food against carbon monoxide, the carbon dioxide from diesel engines, dust etc. is a problem. Fortunately the sale of the more susceptible type of perishable foods in the open market is a small proportion of the food sold.

38. FOOD POISONING

One case of food poisoning was notified by a doctor from one of the Leicester hospitals. The contacts were declared to be free from infection and specimens taken from the patient, a boy of 5, were negative upon his return from hospital.

The infective agent was *Salmonella typhi-murium*. No food was traced as the likely cause of the illness.

During the year 44 investigations were made regarding food poisoning and 110 specimens were collected and taken to the laboratory. 154 investigations were made regarding dysentery and 111 specimens collected and taken to the laboratory.

Close co-operation is maintained with the Director of the Public Health Laboratory at the Groby Road Hospital in the investigation of any suspected cases of food poisoning and I am grateful to Dr. N. S. Mair and his staff for assistance in this respect.

39. FACTORIES ACT, 1937

(a) There are 266 factories on the register. The trades carried on in these factories being as follows:-

Hosiery Manufacturers	106	Brought forward	225
Underwear Manufacturers	9	Manufacturing Chemist	2
Boot & Shoe "	29	Furniture & Upholstery	3
Engineering	26	Repairs	
Display Studios	4	Automobile Engineers	29
Elastic Braid Manufacturer	1	Knitted Goods	2
Public Transport Depots	4	Hosiery Machine Repairs	1
Printers	7	Mineral Water Manf.	1
Cardboard Box Manf.	5	Wheelwright	1
Builders & Timber Merchants	27	Rayon Winding	1
Dyers & Cleaners	5	Emulsions	1
Clothing Manufacturers	2		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
Cd. fwd.	225	Total	266

110 inspections were made in connection with 20 premises and 38 contraventions or defects were found regarding the sanitary accommodation. 22 of the contraventions were abated at the end of the year.

(b) Outworkers

The returns of outworkers employed by factories in the Urban District were as follows:-

	<u>February</u>	<u>August</u>
Returns received from	12 firms	125 firms
Outworkers employed	139	643
Outworkers living in other districts	30	117
Outworkers in our district employed by firms outside the Urban District	-	4

Information sent to other local authorities of outworkers residing in their district and employed by firms in the Urban District:-

Atherstone R.D.C.	3	Brought forward	84
Market Bosworth R.D.C.	10	Blaby R.D.C.	23
Meriden R.D.C.	3	Lutterworth R.D.C.	2
Coventry C.B.	3	Leicester C.B.	1
Nuneaton B.	58	Rugby R.D.C.	7
Bedworth U.D.C.	7		
Carried fwd.	<u>84</u>	Total	<u>117</u>

The number of outworkers following our August return of 643 shows a decrease from last year's return of 715.

No instances occurred of outwork being performed in unwholesome premises.

40. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

1399 inspections were made in connection with the destruction of rats, mice or pests. The Rodent Operator's services are in constant demand which is an indication of the good job that is being done in this work. The testing of drains or sewers where infestations are found has continued, the percentage found to be defective is rather less than last year.

The following return was sent to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Infestation Division upon the work done for one year ending 31st March 1955.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1955

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				(5) AGRICULTURAL
	NON-AGRICULTURAL				
	(1) LOCAL AUTHORITY	(2) DWELLING HOUSES (INC. COUNCIL HOUSES)	(3) ALL OTHER (INCLUDING BUSINESS PREMISES)	(4) TOTAL OF COLS. (1), (2), & (3).	
I.No. of properties in Local Authority's District	45	12430	950	13425	99
II.No. of properties inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification	8	120	47	175	6
(b) Survey under the Act	15	47	59	121	2
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	3	19	9	31	-
III.Total inspections carried out including re-inspect-ions (To be completed only if figures are readily available)	69	806	498	1373	26
IV.No. of properties inspected (in Sec.II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major	-	-	-	-	-
(Minor	18	86	35	139	5
(b) Mice (Major	-	-	-	-	-
(Minor	4	21	40	65	1
V.No. of infested properties (in Sect.IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should not exceed those in Sect.IV)	22	107	75	204	6
VI.Total treatments carried out inc. re-treatments	22	118	82	222	6
VII.No. of notices served under section 4 of Act	-	-	-	-	-
VIII.No. of cases taken in which default action concerned	-	-	-	-	-
IX.Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
X."Block" control schemes	-	-	-	-	-

There was no major infestation during the year, the number of minor infestations found and dealt with, 204 was slightly more than last year's figure of 172.

Contract Premises

33 business premises were on contract with the department for the disinfection of their premises from rats or mice, and in three cases for crickets or beetles also.

Sewer Baiting

The twelfth treatment of the sewers was done between the 17th May and 23rd September, 851 manholes were pre-baited, 55 showed a partial take of prebait and 85 a complete take. These manholes were then poison baited with 2½% Zinc Phosphide and Sausage Rusk.

The number of manholes treated was 68 more than last year and the number showing takes of pre-bait was 100 less. This would appear to indicate that the results from our previous baiting plus the continuing progress being made with the repair of defective drainage systems is producing a good result.

The sewer baiting work was done on the first, second and fourth days in the week. This arrangement enables the Rodent Operator and General Assistant to then deal with other urgent work without too much delay.

41. STAFF

The establishment is the same as last year, 4 sanitary inspectors, one unqualified general assistant, two female clerks and one rodent operator. The only difference in the whole staff from 1939 being one additional junior female clerk and the rodent operator who was appointed in 1944 when the Urban Council became the authority for the administration of the Rats and Mice Destruction Act.

Since 1946 when the establishment was last reviewed many additional duties have been placed upon the department. The return of private slaughtering has increased our meat inspection duties and the intensification of our efforts to rid the district of its unfit houses has also required additional time. The position has now been reached that if any additional duties are placed upon the department, additional staff will be needed to perform them.

TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE URBAN COUNCIL

Year		Population	Births	Birth Rate	Deaths	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1899	...	11,019	361	30.08	193	16.08	160.6
1909	...	12,576	335	27.6	190	15.1	146.2
1919	...	13,707	208	12.99	171	11.12	100.9
1929	...	15,650	294	18.9	223	14.2	71.4
1934	...	16,920	302	17.7	182	10.7	46.0
1939	...	34,360	594	17.2	336	9.6	47.0
1940	...	35,060	601	17.1	364	10.38	47.0
1941	...	35,887	574	15.96	397	11.06	50.5
1942	...	35,044	654	18.66	321	9.11	42.8
1943	...	34,498	681	19.71	328	9.5	36.7
1944	...	34,430	753	21.9	335	9.7	27.9
1945	...	34,400	688	20.0	323	9.3	26.1
1946	...	36,620	855	23.3	366	9.9	44.4
1947	...	37,650	858	22.79	397	10.5	46.8
1948	...	38,580	785	20.39	364	9.4	24.2
1949	...	38,750	691	17.83	396	10.2	27.4
1950	...	39,050	680	17.41	367	9.39	26.85
1951	...	38,980	683	17.5	392	10.05	46.8
1952	...	39,080	605	15.48	348	8.9	26.44
1953	...	39,310	669	17.01	356	9.05	32.88
1954	...	39,600	577	14.54	413	10.40	24.26

